This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Claims 1-9, and 15 are cancelled without prejudice and claims 16-17 are withdrawn from consideration

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Cancelled)
- 2. (Cancelled)
- 3. (Cancelled)
- 4. (Cancelled)
- 5. (Cancelled)
- 6. (Cancelled)
- 7. (Cancelled)
- 8. (Cancelled)
- 9. (Cancelled)

n means an integer of 0 to 2;

10. (Currently amended) A method of treating or preventing diabetic diseases by using a dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibiting agent represented by the general formula (I):

$$X^1 = X^2$$
 $X^1 = X^2$
 X^1

wherein R^{1a} represents a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl group, a 5- to 10-membered aromatic heterocyclic group, a C_{6-10} aromatic hydrocarbon-cyclic group, a 4- to 10-membered heterocyclic group, or a C_{4-13} polycycloalkyl group;

W represents a single bond, <u>or</u> a C₁₋₆ alkylene group, or a group represented by following formula W-1:

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
 & R^{1b} \\
 & V^{2} \\
 & V^{-1}
\end{array}$$

wherein W^2 -represents a nitrogen atom or methine group, m means an integer of 0 to 3, and R^{16} -represents a C_{1-6} -alkyl group, a C_{3-8} -cycloalkyl group, a 5- to 10-menbered aromatic heterocyclic group, a C_{6-10} -aromatic hydrocarbon-cyclic group, a 4- to 10-menbered heterocyclic group, or a C_{4-13} -polycycloalkyl group; each of X^4 -and X^2 -independently represents a nitrogen atom or a methine group; X^1 -represents a nitrogen atom, and X^2 -represents a methine group;

Z represents a group represented by following formula Z-1 or Z-2:

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^{2a} & & & \\
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wherein each of R^{2a} and R^{2b} independently represents a C_{1-6} alkyl group, or a C_{2-6} alkenyl group, or a phenyl group, and Z^2 represents a sulfur atom or a methylene group; and wherein R^{1a} and R^{1b} may be substituted with one to three substituents selected from the group consisting of (1) halogen atoms, (2) a hydroxyl group, (3) C_{2-6} alkenyl groups, (4) C_{2-6} alkynyl groups, (5) a phenyl group, (6) a cyano group, (7) C_{1-6} alkoxy groups which may be substituted with one to three halogen atoms or C_{1-6} alkoxy groups, and (8) C_{1-6} alkyl groups which may be substituted with one to three halogen atoms or C_{1-6} alkoxy groups.

11. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein Z is a group represented by the following formula Z-3:

wherein R^{2b} represents a $C_{1\text{-}6}$ alkyl group, \underline{or} a $C_{2\text{-}6}$ alkenyl group, \underline{or} a phenyl group.

- 12. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein R^{1a} is a phenyl group or a 4-pyrazolyl group.
- 13. (Cancelled)
- 14. (Cancelled)
- 15. (Cancelled) The method according to claim 10, wherein n is 1 or 2.
- 16. (Withdrawn)
- 17. (Withdrawn)